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Message Text

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47
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 NEA-14 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 SAJ-01

SAM-01 CCO-00 OC-06 OPR-02 A-01 M-02 DRC-01 /147 W
---------- 091886
Z 161235Z AUG 74
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 9515
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS FLASH
AMEMBASSY ANKARA FLASH
AMEMBASSY LONDON FLASH
USMISSION NATO FLASH
USMISSION USUN NY FLASH
USDOCOSOUTH FLASH
USEUCOM FLASH
USCINCEUR FLASH
DIA WASHDC DI-5 FLASH

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2394

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PINT CY GR
SUBJ: CLERIDES DECAMPS TO LIMASSOL

1. GREEK EMBASSY TOLD US A FEW MINUTES AGO THAT PRESIDENT CLERIDES AND IMMEDIATE ENTOURAGE HAD LEFT NICOSIA FEW HOURS AGO AND TAKEN UP RESIDENCE IN AMATHUS HOTEL, LIMASSOL. CLERIDES REPORTEDLY CALLED GREEK EMBASSY FROM HOTEL TO INFORM WHEREABOUTS, CONFIRM INTENTION RETURN NICOSIA AS SOON AS CONDITIONS PERMIT.

2. GREEK EMBASSY UNSURE WHY CLERIDES MOVED IN SUCH HASTE, SUSPECTS HE AND IMMEDIATE STAFF PANICKED ON HEARING OF HEAVY FIGHTING AROUND AIRPORT ROUNDABOUT AND REPORT THAT TURKS HAD BROKEN INTO OLD CITY AROUND LEDRA STREET AREA. (GREEK EMBASSY DENIES REPORT; UNFICYP UNABLE CONFIRM OR DENY.)
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3. GREEK EMBASSY SERIOUSLY TROUBLED AT PROSPECT OF LOSING ALL CONTACT WITH GOCYPRUS (PHONES STILL WORKING). THIS, PLUS CONTINUED HEAVY FIGHTING IN IMMEDIATE AREA, HAS CAUSED GOGREECE EMBASSY CONSIDER MOVE TO LIMASSOL.

4. EMBOFF SPOKE WITH CLERIDES AT AMATHUS AT 1415 RPT 1415 LOCAL. CLERIDES VAGUE ON REASONS FOR TRIP, THOUGH SAID HE EXPECTS BE BACK IN NICOSIA EITHER TONIGHT OR TOMORROW MORNING. CLAIMED HE HAD HEARD OF "SMALL PENETRATION" IN NG LINES WEST OF CITY AFTER RPT AFTER ARRIVAL LIMASSOL; NG HAS TOLD HIM THIS BREACH NOW REPAIRED AND LINES IN WESTERN AREA OF CITY VIRTUALLY IN SAME SHAPE AS YESTERDAY. CLERIDES DECLINED WITH HIS USUAL GRACIOUSNESS OUR OFFER SEND EMBASSY REP TO AMATHUS FOR DURATION HIS STAY THERE.

5. COMMENT. SO LONG AS PHONES HOLD, WE WILL HAVE SOME CONTACT WITH AUTHORITATIVE LEVEL OF GOCYPRUS. IN EXTREMIS, BELIEVE WE MIGHT BE ABLE USE UNFICYP AND POSSIBLY ALSO UK COMMO FACILITIES, THOUGH NO GUARANTEE. ANY CASE, CLERIDES MOVE STRIKES US AS AWKWARD THIS JUNCTURE, WHATEVER REASON, SINCE IT EFFECTIVELY CRIPPLES OUR CONTACT WITH HIM. ALSO RAISES DANGER THAT TURKS MIGHT MISREAD HIS TRIP AS PANICKY FLIGHT, THEREBY RAISING OWN SIGHTS IN NICOSIA AREA.
DAVIES

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELECOMMUNICATION, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NICOSI02394
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740225-1121
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740841/aaaabjbh.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <24-Sep-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CLERIDES DECAMPS TO LIMASSOL
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CY, GR, (CLERIDES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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